

# 9 DAYS TURKEY EXCELLENT ADVENTUROUS TOUR



## Day 1 Kuala Lumpur – Istanbul

Assembling at the airport for the greatest moment which you have been waiting for and the great adventurous journey of a lifetime, **Turkey**, the country of Excellency and historical valued. And enjoy the flight which will lead you to your destination and which upon arrival, you will be guided through the check in hotel and soon after you will have your own sweetest moment exploring the traditions and cultures of another world on earth at your leisure, following up with a satisfying dinner which prepares for you.

**Istanbul** (**Turkish**: *İstanbul*, historically also known as **Byzantium** and **Constantinople**; see the **names of Istanbul**) is the largest city in **Turkey** and **fifth largest city proper** in the world with a population of 12.8 million. Istanbul is also a **megacity**, as well as the cultural, economic, and financial centre of **Turkey**. The city covers 39 districts of the **Istanbul province**. It is located on the **Bosphorus Strait** and encompasses the natural harbor known as the **Golden Horn**, in the northwest of the country. It extends both on the European (**Thrace**) and on the Asian (**Anatolia**) sides of the Bosphorus, and is thereby the only metropolis in the world that is situated on two **continents**.

## Day 2 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) Istanbul / Ankara / Cappadocia

**Ankara** is the **capital** of **Turkey** and the country's **second largest city** after **Istanbul**. The city has a mean elevation of **850 metres** (2,800 ft), and as of 2007 the city had a population of **4,751,360**, which includes eight districts under the city's administration. Ankara also serves as the capital of **Ankara Province**.

As with many ancient cities, Ankara has gone by several names over the ages: The **Hittites** gave it the name *Ankuwash* before **1200 BC**. The **Galatians** and Romans called it *Ancyra*. In the **classical**, **Hellenistic**, and **Byzantine** periods it was known as Ἄγκυρα (*Ánkyra*, meaning *Anchor*) in **Greek**. The city was also known in the European languages as *Angora* after its conquest by the **Seljuk Turks** in 1073, and continued to be internationally called with this name until it was officially renamed *Ankara* with the Turkish Postal Service Law of 1930.

**Cappadocia** (pronounced /kæpəˈdɒʃə/;

also *Capadocia*; **Turkish** *Kapadokya*,

from **Greek**: *Καππαδοκία* / *Kappadokía*) is a region in central **Turkey**, largely in **Nevşehir Province**.

The name was traditionally used in **Christian** sources throughout history and is still widely used as an international **tourism** concept to define a region of exceptional natural wonders, in particular characterized by **fairy chimneys** and a unique **historical** and **cultural** heritage. The term, as used in tourism, roughly corresponds to present-day **Nevşehir Province**.

In the time of **Herodotus**, the Cappadocia's were reported as occupying the whole region from **Mount Taurus** to the vicinity of the Euxine (**Black Sea**). Cappadocia, in this sense, was bounded in the south by

the chain of the [Taurus Mountains](#) that separate it from [Cilicia](#), to the east by the upper [Euphrates](#) and the [Armenian Highland](#), to the north by [Pontus](#), and to the west by [Lycaonia](#) and eastern [Galatia](#)

### **Day 3 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) Cappadocia**

**Built on the northern slopes of Mt. Idis about 14 km northeast of Avanos in Turkey, Özkonak Underground City has many strata made up of volcanic granite.** The larger areas of the city are connected to each other by tunnels. **Özkonak** had a built in communication system of pipes to each of its levels, unlike [Kaymaklı](#) and [Derinkuyu](#) which have no such communication systems. Each carved out room had ventilation provided by holes when the city was closed against enemies.

Özkonak Underground City was discovered in 1972 by a local farmer named Latif Acar, who was curious about where his excess crop water was disappearing to. Latif discovered an underground room which, when later excavated, revealed a whole city which could house an incredible 60,000 people for up to three months. Although only four floors are now open, the complex contains a total of ten floors, to a depth of 40m.

Unlike the other [underground cities](#) in this area, there were holes above the tunnels used for dumping hot oil on the enemy. Just like [Kaymaklı](#) and [Derinkuyu](#), Özkonak has a [water well](#), ventilation system, winery and moving stone doors. And will proceed to the Cavusin Church. **Soon after you will be enjoying the best scenery of Cappadocia at Uchisar and visit at Turkish Carpet Factory & Pottery Workshop.**

### **Day 4 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) Cappadocia / Caravansil / Konya / Pamukkale**

After the breakfast today you will enjoy on the tour to **Caravansil** and to The **Selim Caravanserai** ([Armenian](#): Սելիմ; also referred to as the Sulema Caravanserai) was a built along the [Selim Pass](#) (2410 m) in 1332 by Prince [Chesar Orbelianis](#) for the purpose of accommodating weary travelers and their animals that were crossing from or into the Selim (Sulema) Mountains. It is the best preserved caravanserai in the country, and is located at the south side of the Selim Pass in the [Vayots Dzor](#) province of [Armenia](#). Ruins of a small chapel may still be seen adjacent to the vestibule, and across the road is a spring.

The only entrance to the caravanserai is at the rectangular vestibule adjacent to the hall of the structure. It has a gabled stone shingle roof that leans on three arches. On the east these arches rest on the window edges. The southern wall of the vestibule and the entry wall façade are the few areas of the caravanserai that have any ornamentation. The entry has decorations around the half-rounded lintel, and high-reliefs of a winged animal to the left and a bull to the right above the lintel. The only other decorations may be found on each of the oculist in the hall, which each have a unique design.

And you will proceed to **Konya is a city in the Central Anatolia Region of Turkey. It is the capital of the Konya Province, and had a city population of 1,003,373 in 2009 while the provincial population (including the other urban centers in the Konya Province) was 1,959,082 in the same year.** Towards **Pamukkale, meaning "cotton castle" in Turkish, is a natural site in south-western Turkey in the Denizli Province.** The city contains hot springs and [travertines](#), terraces of carbonate minerals left by the flowing water. It is located in Turkey's Inner [Aegean](#) region, in the [River Menderes](#) valley, which has a temperate climate for most of the year.

The ancient city of [Hierapolis](#) was built on top of the white "castle" which is in total about 2,700 meters (8,900 ft) long and 160 metres (520 ft) high. It can be seen from the hills on the opposite side of the valley in the town of [Denizli](#), 20 km away.

Tourism is and has been a major industry. People have bathed in its pools for thousands of years. As recently as the mid 20th century, hotels were built over the ruins of Hierapolis, causing considerable damage. An approach road was built from the valley over the terraces, and motor bikes were allowed to go up and down the slopes. When the area was declared a world heritage site, the hotels were demolished and the road removed and replaced with artificial pools. Wearing shoes in the water is prohibited to protect the deposits.

### **Day 5 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) Pamukkale / Ephesus / Kusadasi**

**Pamukkale** is a tourist attraction. It is recognized as a World Heritage Sites together with Hierapolis. A few other places in the world resemble it, including the Mammoth Hot Springs in the USA and Huanglong in Sichuan Province of China (another UNESCO World Heritage Site). Hierapolis-Pamukkale was made a World Heritage Site in 1988.

The underground volcanic activity which causes the hot springs also forced carbon dioxide into a cave, which was called the Plutonium meaning place of the god, Pluto. This cave was used for religious purposes by priests of Cybele, who found ways to appear immune to the suffocating gas.

Tadpoles can be found in the pools.

**Ephesus (Ancient Greek Ἔφεσος, Turkish Efes) was an ancient Greek city on the west coast of Anatolia, near present-day Selçuk, İzmir Province, Turkey.** It was one of the twelve cities of the [Ionian League](#) during the [Classical Greek](#) era. In the Roman period, it was for many years the second largest city of the Roman; ranking behind [Rome](#), the empire's capital. Ephesus had a population of more than 250,000 in the 1st century BC, which also made it the second largest city in the world.

The city was famed for the [Temple of Artemis](#) (completed around 550 BCE), one of the [Seven Wonders of the Ancient World](#). The temple was destroyed in 401 CE by a mob led by St. [John Chrysostom](#). Emperor [Constantine I](#) rebuilt much of the city and erected new public baths. The town was again partially destroyed by an earthquake in 614. The city's importance as a commercial center declined as the harbor was slowly silted up by the [Cayster River](#) (*Küçük Menderes*).

Ephesus was one of the [seven churches of Asia](#) that are cited in the [Book of Revelation](#). The [Gospel of John](#) may have been written here. It is also the site of a large [gladiators'](#) graveyard.

Today's archaeological site lies 3 kilometers southwest of the town of [Selçuk](#), in the [Selçuk](#) district of [İzmir Province, Turkey](#). The [ruins](#) of Ephesus are a favorite international and local tourist attraction, partly owing to their easy access from [Adnan Menderes Airport](#) and via the port of [Kuşadası](#).

#### **Day 6 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) Kusadasi / Pergamon / City of Troy / Canakkale**

**Kuşadası** is a [resort town](#) on [Turkey's Aegean](#) coast and the center of the seaside district of the same name in [Aydın Province](#). Kuşadası lies at a distance of 95 km (59 mi) to the south from the region's largest metropolitan center of [İzmir](#), and 71 km (44 mi) from the provincial seat of [Aydın](#) situated inland. Its primary industry is tourism. Her neighbours are [Germencik](#) district from northeast, [Söke](#) one from southeast, [Aegean Sea](#) from west and [Selçuk](#) district from north.

**Pergamon, Pergamum** or **Pérgamo** (in [Greek](#), Πέργαμος) was an ancient [Greek](#) city in modern-day [Turkey](#), in [Mysia](#), today located 16 miles (26 km) from the [Aegean Sea](#) on a [promontory](#) on the north side of the river [Caicus](#) (modern day [Bakırçay](#)), that became the capital of the [Kingdom of Pergamon](#) during the [Hellenistic period](#), under the [Attalid dynasty](#), 281–133 BC. Today, the main sites of ancient Pergamon are to the north and west of the modern city of [Bergama](#).

Troy ([Greek](#): Τροία, *Troia*, also Ἴλιον, *Ilion*; [Latin](#): *Trōia*, *Īlium*;<sup>[1]</sup> [Hittite](#): *Wilusa* or *Truwisa*) was a city, both factual and [legendary](#), best known for being the focus of the [Trojan War](#), as described in the [Epic Cycle](#) and especially in the *Iliad*, one of the two epic poems attributed to [Homer](#). Trojan refers to the inhabitants and culture of Troy.

[Metrical](#) evidence from the *Iliad* and the [Odyssey](#) seems to show that the name Ἴλιον formerly began with a [digamma](#) (Fίλιον): this was later proved by the Hittite form *Wilusa*.

Today it is the name of an archaeological site, the traditional location of Homeric Troy, [Turkish Truva](#), in [Hisarlık, Anatolia](#), close to the seacoast in what is now [Çanakkale province](#) in northwest [Turkey](#), southwest of the [Dardanelles](#) under [Mount Ida](#).

A new city of Ilium was founded on the site in the reign of the [Roman Emperor Augustus](#). It flourished until the establishment of [Constantinople](#) and declined gradually during the [Byzantine](#) era.

In 1865 an English archaeologist, [Frank Calvert](#), excavated trial trenches in a field he had bought from a local farmer at [Hisarlık](#), near Truva and in 1868 a wealthy [German](#) businessman, [Heinrich Schliemann](#), after a chance meeting between the two men in [Çanakkale town](#), also began excavating in this area. Later excavations revealed several cities built in succession to each other. One of the earlier cities ([Troy VII](#)) is generally identified with Homeric Troy. While such an identity is disputed, the site has been successfully identified with the city called *Wilusa* in [Hittite](#) texts; *Ilion* (which goes back to earlier *Willion* with [adigamma](#)) is thought to be the Greek rendition of that name.

The archaeological site of Troy was added to the [UNESCO World Heritage](#) list in 1998. And you will be putting a night at Canakkale.

#### **Day 7 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) Canakkale & Istanbul**

**Çanakkale** (pronounced [tʃɑˈnakːale]) is a town and seaport in [Turkey](#), in [Çanakkale Province](#), on the southern ([Asian](#)) coast of the [Dardanelles](#) (or [Hellespont](#)) at their narrowest point. The population of the town is 96 588 (2009 estimates.)



Çanakkale Province, like [Istanbul Province](#), has territory in both [Europe](#) and [Asia](#). Ferries cross here to the northern (European) side of the strait.

Çanakkale is the nearest major town to the site of ancient [Troy](#). The "wooden horse" from the 2004 movie [Troy](#) is exhibited on the seafront. Çanakkale is the second city to be situated on two continents after Istanbul. However Çanakkale is closer to mid-division than Istanbul.

The **Sea of Marmara** ([Turkish](#): *Marmara Denizi*), also known as the **Sea of Marmora** or the **Marmara Sea**, and in the context of [classical antiquity](#) as the **Propontis** ([Greek](#): Προποντις), is the inland [sea](#) that connects the [Black Sea](#) to the [Aegean Sea](#), thus separating [Turkey's Asian](#) and [European](#) parts. The [Bosphorus](#) strait connects it to the Black Sea and the [Dardanelles](#) strait to the Aegean. The former also separates [Istanbul](#) into its Asian and European sides. The Sea has an area of 11,350 km<sup>2</sup> (280 km x 80 km) with the greatest depth reaching 1,370 m.

Belly dance is a term for traditional dance, especially raqs sharqi ([Arabic](#): رقص شرقي). It is sometimes called Middle Eastern dance or Arabic dance in the West, or by the [Greco-Turkish](#) term [çiftetelli](#) ([Greek](#): τσιφτετέλι).

The term "Belly dance" is a misnomer as all parts of the body are involved in the dance; the most featured body part in raqs sharqi being the hips. Belly dance takes many different forms depending on country and region, both in costume and dance style;; and new styles have been invented in the West as its popularity has spread globally.

Raqs sharqi ([Arabic](#): رقص شرقي; literally "oriental dance") is the style more familiar to Westerners, performed in restaurants and cabarets around the world. It is more commonly performed by female dancers but is also sometimes danced by men. Raqs sharqi is a solo improvisational dance, although students often perform choreographed dances in a group.

Raqs baladi, ([Arabic](#): رقص بلدي; literally "dance of country", or "folk" dance) is the folkloric style, danced socially by men and women of all ages in some Middle Eastern countries, usually at festive occasions such as weddings.

#### **Day 8 (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner) Istanbul**

In its long history, Istanbul has served as the capital city of the [Roman Empire \(330–395\)](#), the [Eastern Roman \(Byzantine\) Empire \(395–1204 and 1261–1453\)](#), the [Latin \(1204–1261\)](#), and the [Ottoman Empire \(1453–1922\)](#). The city was chosen as joint [European Capital of Culture](#) for 2010. The historic areas of Istanbul were added to the [UNESCO World Heritage List](#) in 1985.

After breakfast, proceed journeys to Selcuk aravanserai. Transfer to Konya visit Mausoleum Melvana Calaleddini Rumi and depart for Pamukkale with a brief city tour.

#### **Day 9 (Breakfast) Istanbul – Kuala Lumpur**

After your satisfying meal of breakfast with the great memories of the adventures you have been, you will have some time for your own at your leisure pondering the fun filled sights which you traveled. Soon after you will be led back to the airport for the departure back to **Kuala Lumpur** bringing back the greatest moment of your lifetime

